Cut in Subsidy on low analysis fertilizers

1048. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to cut subsidy on low analysis fertilizers like ammonium sulphate, calcium ammonium nitrate, ammonium chloride and superphosphate;

(b) if so, whether its impact on the operations of the manufacturing plants have been considered;

(c) whether there is any proposal to import phosphate to make up the shortfall in the indigenous production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b) The matter is under review by Government. No final decision has yet been taken.

(c) and (d) Indigenous production of phosphatic fertilizers is not sufficient to meet the country's requirements. The gap between domestic availability of phosphatic feriljzers and country's assessed requirements is bridged through imports.

New Rent Control Act

1049. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any legislation on the line of new Rent Control Act for Delhi has been recommended to the State Governments; and

(b) if so, their reaction to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have decided to make recommendation to the State Governments to consider amendments in their respective Rent Control Legislation on the lines of the Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Act, 1988.

Loss of production in mini-steel plants due to shortage of scrap

1050. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased ot state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of scrap required by mini-steel plants;

(b) if so, the reasons for not allowing imports thereof; and

(c) what is the loss of production likely to be incurred by mini-steel plants in terms of tonnage and value?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the reported shortage of melting scrap in the country.

(b) Does not arise as imports are taking place.

(c) It is difficult to assess if there will be shortfall in production of mini steel plants at this stage.

Registration of Producers and Directors

1051. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan have called for fresh registration of TV serial producers and directors;

(b) if so, how many applications have been received;

(c) by when Doordarshan will sort out and register the applicants;

(d) what is the criteria sought to be applied in this regard; and

(e) what are the reasons for an open-door policy not being adopted instead of selected parties being registered?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-